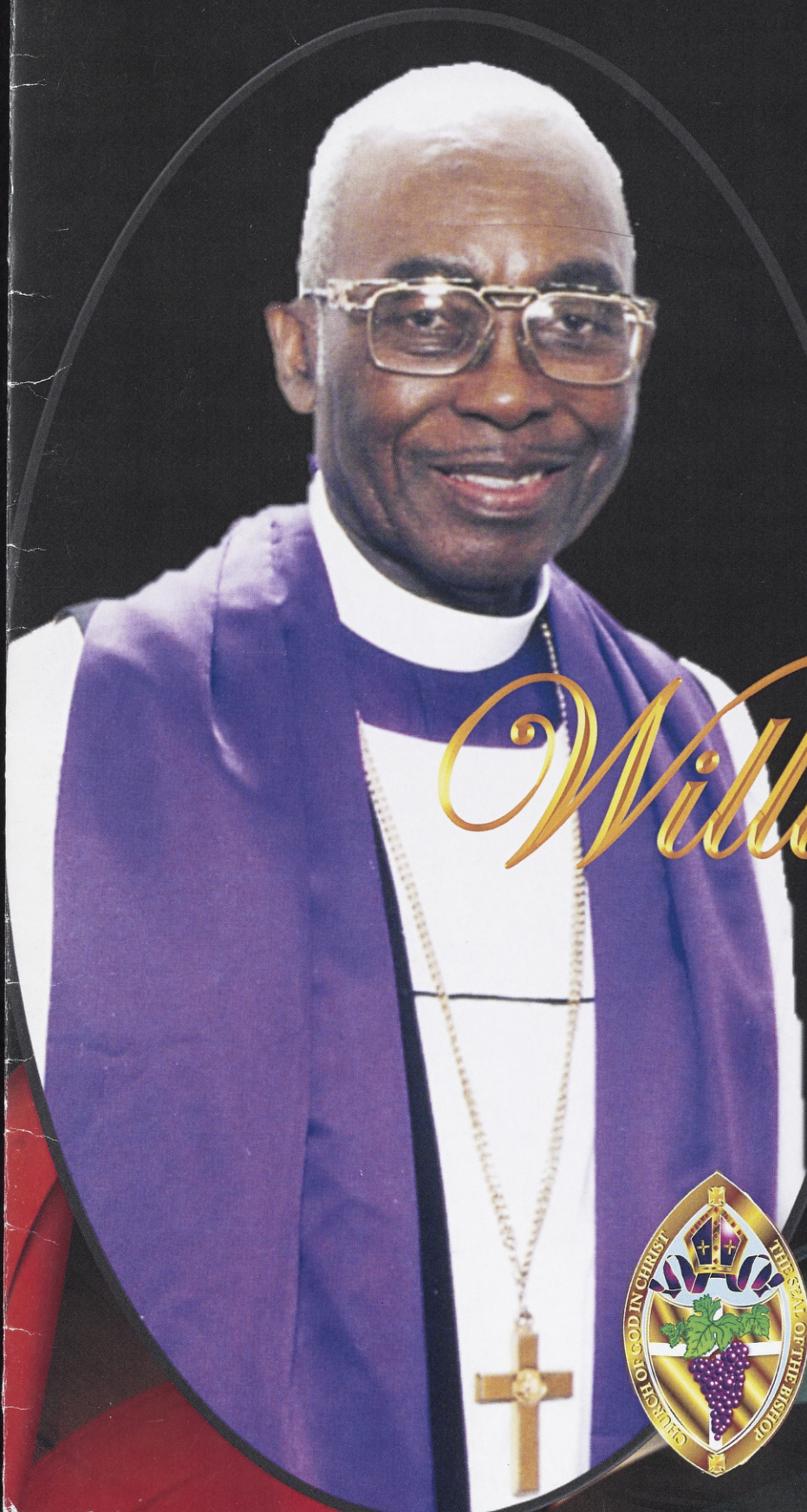


A Celebration of Life

February 22, 1920 ♦ *January 21, 2017*



Bishop
Charles D.
Williams

Bishop Emeritus



JANUARY 28, 2017
1:00 P.M.

Anchorage City Church
1301 W. 100th Ave
Anchorage, AK



A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Bishop Charles D. Williams

Visionary Leader, Pastor, Preacher, Teacher



FEBRUARY 22, 1920 ~ JANUARY 21, 2017

Obituary

Bishop Charles D. Williams

Bishop Charles D. Williams, born in Ennis, Texas to the late Charlie and Mahalie Russel Williams, spent his early years in Ennis, and at the age of 17, he moved to Dallas, Texas where he resided with his brother, the late Superintendent J.C. Williams and Sister Minnie Williams. Bishop Williams was inducted into the Armed forces in 1942 and received an honorable discharge in 1946.

The Lord saved Brother Williams in 1946, and while living in Stockton, California, he acknowledged his call to the ministry in 1949. During his membership at the Friendly Church of God in Christ, in Stockton, California, Brother Williams' humble beginnings in the ministry started with assuming the positions of Usher, Deacon, Junior Church Pastor and District Sunday School Superintendent.

Young Charles Williams, a licensed minister, traveled to Alaska in 1952 with a friend known as Deacon Ivory Thornton. Minister Williams journeyed 9 days with his friend to Alaska on the rough terrain of the Alaskan-Canadian Highway, to the city of Anchorage. Minister Williams arrived in Alaska with a nickel in his pocket. Jobs were hard to find in those days and transportation was equally as difficult to find. Finding no Church of God in Christ in Anchorage, Minister Williams attended services at the Assemblies of God where he met and befriended Minister James Cash and the late Sister Catherine Peterson among others. They soon began to hold services at the Anchorage Mission Home where souls were saved.

Minister Williams returned to California and made arrangements to bring his wife, Mrs. Fannie Williams, to Alaska. Upon his return in the Spring of 1953, Minister Williams began to worship with Elder J.O. Osborn. In September 1953, Minister Williams was ordained to the office of Elder by the late Bishop L. E. Tolliver, the first overseer assigned to the Alaska Territory.

In November of 1953, Elder Williams founded the Friendly Church of God in Christ located at the East Chester Flats, (18th and East "K" Street), currently known as Medfra Street, where there were mostly night clubs and houses of ill repute. Minister Williams set out to obey the Lord's call to save souls. They opened their services with four members: Elder Williams and Mrs. Williams, 2 of the 4 members. On Christmas, December 25, 1953 their 25th member was added to the church. The local bus system was poor, but this fledgling church did not let that hinder them from going to church services. The "saints" would walk from Fourth Avenue, Willow Park, Fairview subdivisions and from as far as the Government Hill subdivision to prayer services at 12 noon. If they could not ride on the bus or contact the late Elder Price King (the only one who had a car), they would walk back to church at night. Being blessed of the Lord, in less than two years the edifice was too small for the number of Saints in attendance. The church relocated to 1211 Karluk St. from the Medfra Street location, and again in May of 1970, the growth of the ministry required yet another move, and the ministry's address was changed to its present location, 6310 DeBarr Road. Several expansion remodeling programs have been initiated since the last

move and consequently, the name of the ministry was changed to the "Greater" Friendly Temple Church of God in Christ. Elder Williams became the first State Sunday School Superintendent in the territory of Alaska after which he was later appointed to State Chairman of the Board of Elders.

In 1967 God elevated Elder Charles Williams to the office of Bishop for the Church of God in Christ in the Jurisdiction of Alaska. Under his administration, the Church of God in Christ has grown from three churches to eleven churches with locations in Anchorage, Fairbanks and North Pole Alaska. Bishop Williams traveled frequently, overseeing and engaging in his Bishopric obligations in faithful services to God's people. Many who have been saved under Bishop William's ministry currently serve in many positions of responsibility and leadership throughout the nation and world as Bishops, pastors, elders, missionaries and state supervisors. Others in many states, foreign fields and persuasions have acknowledged Bishop C. D. Williams as their spiritual leader and father.

Among the multi-faceted duties and responsibilities, Bishop Williams makes time to be a respected husband to his wife over 60 years, an Evangelist Missionary and First Lady, Mother Fannie Mae Williams; and honored father to his two children, a generous grandfather to many grandchildren, and loving great grandfather to four great grandchildren.

Community services were no stranger to Bishop Williams. Bishop Williams served as an officer in the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and headed several committees. He frequently visited the sick in the hospitals or in their homes, the jails, the senior citizen's home, and served as an advocate for anyone who needed him in the time of trouble. His home is a refuge for honored guests as well as for the transient and homeless. Mr. Hospitality is his middle name to all that came his way.

Bishop Williams is a leader among his peers on the Church of God in Christ Board of Bishops under the leadership of Bishop John H. Sheard, the President of the National Board of Bishops. Bishop C.D. Williams has served in many offices on the National Level. He is highly respected as a spiritual, praying man by his colleagues, friends, and the members of the General Board of Bishops.

Bishop C. D. Williams is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mother Fannie M. Williams, his granddaughters Audrey (Rainey) Hall of Anchorage, Alaska, Robin Williams, Sherdon Mitts and grandson Renard Mitts, all of Dallas, Texas; his nephew, Pete Williams, wife (Lillian) of Houston, Texas; a host of great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, saints and friends. He is preceded in death by his son, Luther James Williams, and daughter Mae Ruth Mitts, grandson's Alfred B. Hall, Wesley and Troy Williams.



His presence will be missed, but his legacy will remain!



The Honorable Bishop Otis McCormick

The Alaska Prelate, State of Alaska

Chief Officiant

Superintendent Lincoln L. Snow, Co-Officiant

First Administrative Assistant

Pastor James M. Willis, Co-Officiant

Second Administrative Assistant

The Order of Home Going Celebration

January 28, 2017 - 1:00 P.M.

+ Please Stand Where Indicated

PRESIDERS

Elder Robert Kelly, Sr., Interim Pastor, Greater Friendly Temple

Pastor James M. Willis, Second Administrative Assistant, State Secretary

Pastor Carl Baldwin - Processional Orator

ORGAN PRELUDE

+THE PROCESSIONAL

The Ordained Elders

The Greater Friendly Temple Associate Pastors

The Pastors

The District Superintendents

The Administrative Assistants

Visiting Prelates

The Alaska Prelate

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The Williams Family

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

THE SEALING OF THE BIER

+ THE INVOCATION ..... Elder Carl Baldwin  
*Pastor, House of Prayer COGIC*

THE OLD TESTAMENT ..... Psalm 91:1-10 ..... Elder Maurice Durman  
*State Superintendent, State Sunday School Department*

THE NEW TESTAMENT ..... II Timothy 4:6-8 ..... Elder John Miller  
*Vice-President, Alaska State Music Department*

+ THE HYMN OF COMFORT (We'll Understand it Better By and By) ..... Choir & Congregation

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ..... Pastor John Quarles  
*Greater New Hope COGIC*



## *The Affirmation of Our Faith*

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in the Bible.*

The Congregation: We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written word of God.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in God.*

The Congregation: We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in the Blessed Hope.*

The Congregation: We believe in the blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ at his return.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in Repentance.*

The Congregation: We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance, faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in Salvation.*

The Congregation: We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ*

The Congregation: We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body in answer to believing prayer.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in the Holy Ghost.*

The Congregation: We believe in the baptism of the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it.

*The Leader: We affirm our faith in sanctification.*

The Congregation: We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world. AMEN



THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CIVIC, COMMUNITY AND ECUMENICAL LEADERS  
Elder Michael Thornton

ECUMENICAL TRIBUTES (2 Minutes)

Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance..... Pastor Leon D. May, President  
Abbott Loop Christian Center..... Pastor Dick Benjamin  
Muldoon Assemblies of God ..... Pastor Kent Redfearn  
Lighthouse Christian Fellowship ..... Pastor Ken Friendly  
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church ..... Dr. Alonzo Patterson

MUSICAL SELECTION ..... Sister Denise Snow

CIVIC TRIBUTES (2 Minutes)

City of Anchorage ..... Mayor Ethan Berkowitz  
State of Alaska ..... Governor Bill Walker  
State Senator ..... Senator Dan Sullivan  
Senator Lisa Murkowski Representative ..... Ms. Trina Bailey

JURISDICTIONAL TRIBUTES (2 Minutes)

Northern District..... Pastor Herbert McCormick  
South Central District..... Pastor Carl Baldwin  
Department of Women ..... Supervisor Mable B. Gibbons  
Council of Pastors & Elders ..... Pastor Melvin J. Williams, Sr., Chairman  
Auxiliaries In Ministry..... Pastor Glenn V. Ratcliff, Sr., Chairman

MUSICAL SELECTION ..... Alaska State Choir

SPECIAL TRIBUTES (2 Minutes)

Spiritual Daughter of 61 Years..... Mother Arlene McCormick  
Co-founder, Alaska Jurisdiction Church Of God In Christ ..... Mother Emma Avery  
Spiritual Son of 63 Years ..... Superintendent Lincoln L. Snow, Sr.  
Spiritual Son of 60 Years..... Superintendent Johnie Q. Jones  
*Greater Love COGIC, Milpitas, CA*

FAMILY TRIBUTES (2 Minutes)

Wife..... (Ms. Audrey Rainey Hall) for Mrs. Fannie Williams  
Granddaughter ..... Ms. Audrey Rainey Hall  
Nephew..... Superintendent Rufus (Pete) Williams

THE SELECTION..... Alaska State Choir

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CARDS AND TELEGRAMS ..... District Missionary Wanda F. Peel  
*South Central District*

RESOLUTION | LOCAL CHURCH..... Pastor Robert Kelly, Sr.  
*Associate Pastor, Greater Friendly Temple*

RESOLUTION | ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN..... Evangelist Linda J. Ratcliff  
*State Secretary, Department of Women*

RESOLUTION | ALASKA JURISDICTION..... Pastor James M. Willis  
*Second Administrative Assistant to the Bishop  
Jurisdictional Secretary*

OBITUARY SILENTLY READ



|                                  |                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INTRODUCTION OF THE BISHOP ..... | Superintendent Lincoln L. Snow, Sr.<br>First Administrative Assistant to the Bishop<br>South Central District |
| THE SERMONIC SOLO.....           | Evangelist Frances Avery-Stoute<br>Greater Friendly Temple COGIC                                              |
| THE WORD.....                    | <i>The Honorable Bishop Otis McCormick</i><br>The Alaska Prelate                                              |
| + THE RECESSIONAL                |                                                                                                               |

## *The Hymn of Comfort*

### **We'll Understand It Better By and By**

We are often tossed and driven on the restless sea of time;  
Somber skies and howling tempests oft succeed a bright sunshine;  
In that land of perfect day, when the mists have rolled away,  
We will understand it better by and by.

We are often destitute of the things that life demands,  
Want of food and want of shelter, thirsty hills and barren lands;  
We are trusting in the Lord, and according to God's Word,  
We will understand it better by and by.

Trials dark on every hand, and we cannot understand  
All the ways that God could lead us to that blessed Promised Land;  
But He guides us with His eye, and we'll follow till we die,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.

Temptations, hidden snares often take us unawares,  
And our hearts are made to bleed for a thoughtless word or deed;  
And we wonder why the test when we try to do our best,  
But we'll understand it better by and by.

#### **Chorus**

*By and by, when the morning comes,  
When the saints of God are gathered home,  
We'll tell the story of how we've overcome,  
For we'll understand it better by and by.*



### **THE ACTIVE PALLBEARERS**

The Pastors of Alaska Churches of God in Christ

Pastor Robert Kelly

Pastor John Quarles

Elder Michael Thornton

Pastor Carl Baldwin

Pastor Melvin Williams

Pastor Herbert McCormick

### **THE HONOR GUARDS**

The Pastors & Elders of the Alaska Churches of God in Christ

Elder Joe Gibbons

Superintendent Lincoln Snow

Elder Glenn Ratcliff

Elder Carl Ward

Elder John Miller

Superintendent Johnnie Quarles

### **THE FLOWER BEARERS**

The Department of Women of Alaska Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ  
Alaska State Adjutant Sisters – Church of God in Christ

### **THE INTERMENT**

**ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL PARK**

4100 Hilltop Dr. ~ Richmond, CA

### **THE MINISTRY OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO:**

**LEGACY FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATION SERVICES**

Old Seward Hwy. ~ Anchorage, AK 99515

[www.legacyalaska.com](http://www.legacyalaska.com)

### **THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The family of the late Bishop Charles D. Williams wishes to acknowledge, with deep appreciation, the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and other expressions of kindness and concerns evidenced in thought and deed.



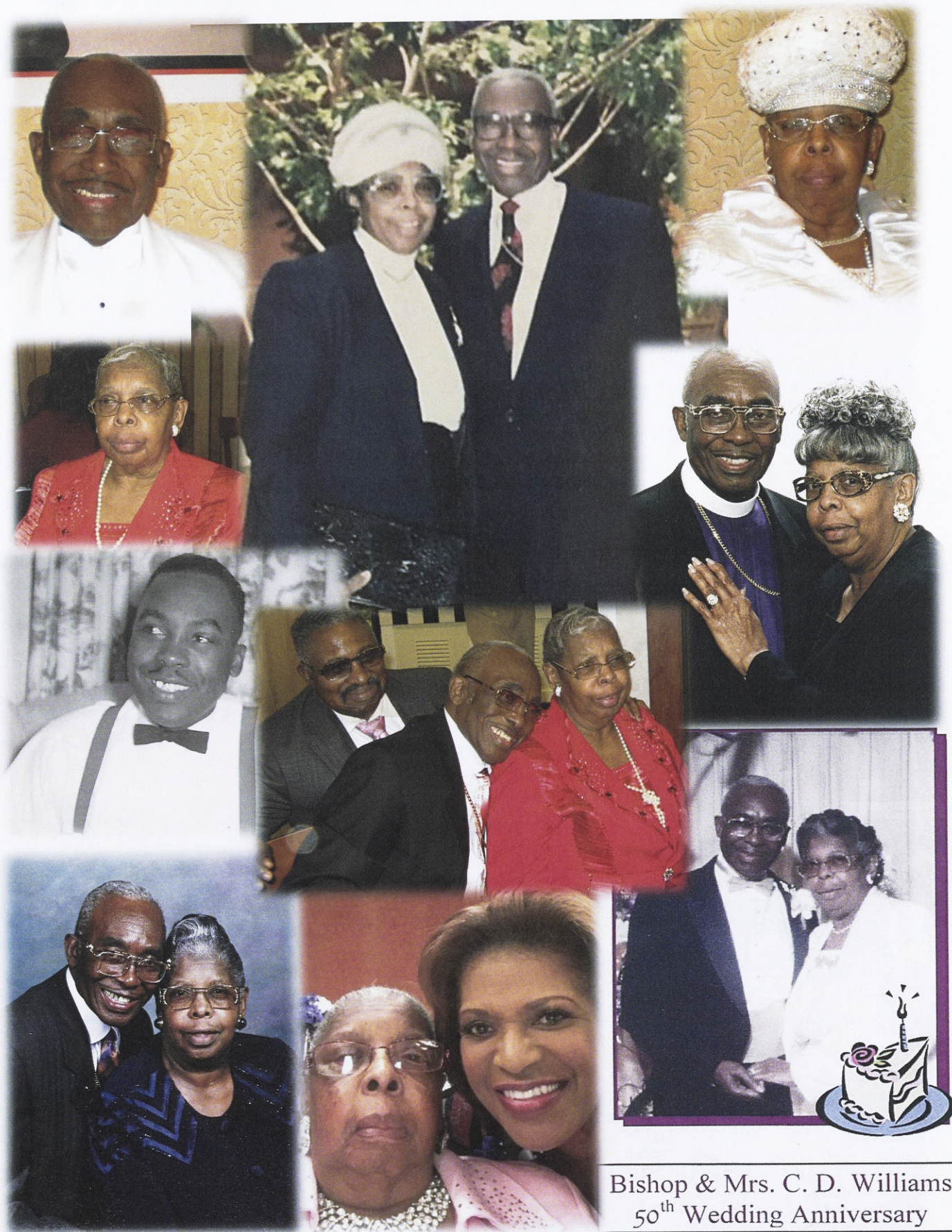


# A Man of God - Respected





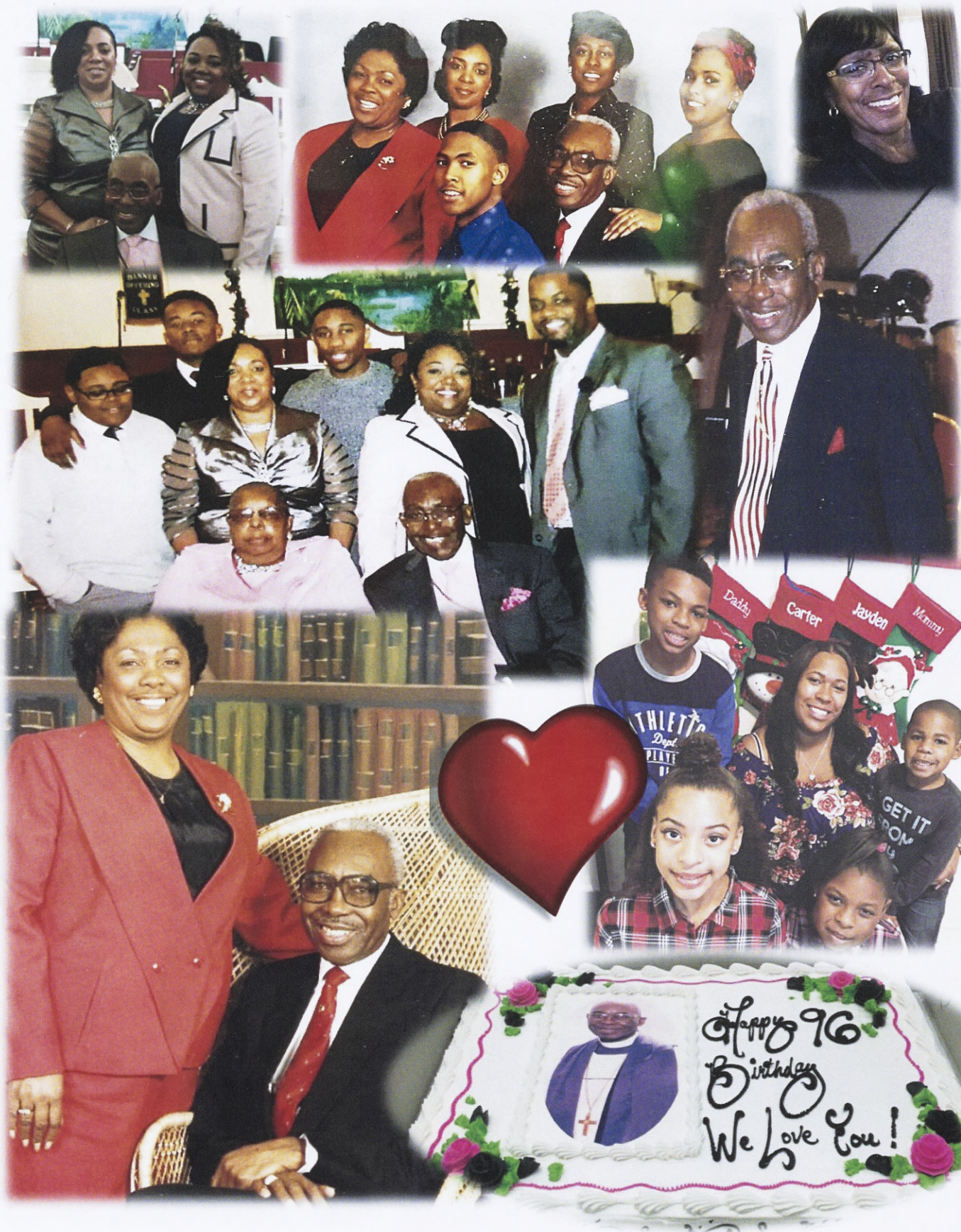
# A Loving Husband - Accepted



Bishop & Mrs. C. D. Williams  
50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

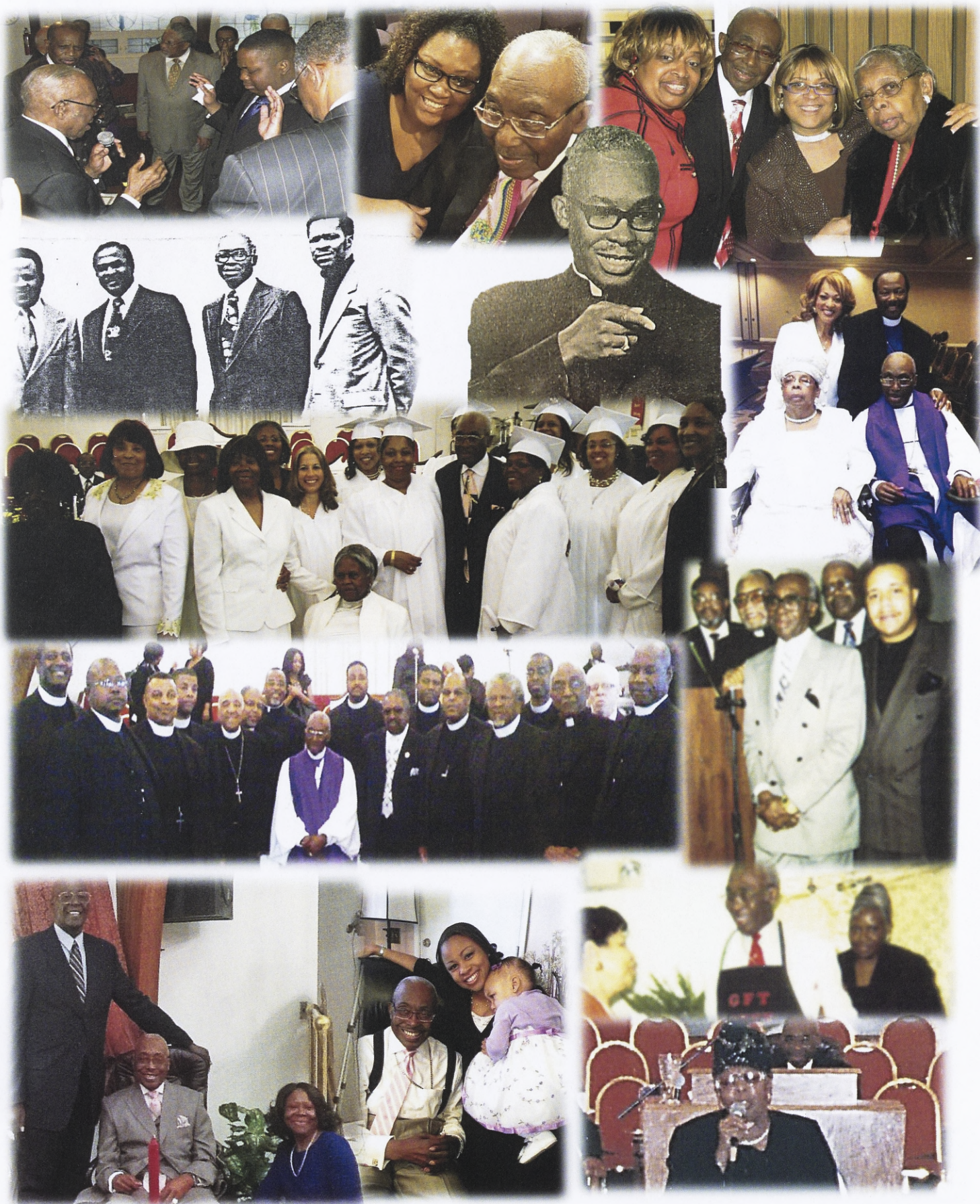


# A Godly Family Man - Expected





# A Godly Leader - Effective









*"I have fought a  
good fight, I have  
finished my course,  
I have kept the faith:  
Henceforth there is  
laid up for me a  
crown of  
righteousness...the  
Lord shall give me  
at that day:...."*

*2 Timothy 4: 7, 8a*

